

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 IO-13 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19

AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08

JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CEQ-02 EPA-04 DRC-01

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R 181713Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3281

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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FOR SCI/EN, PASS LOS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, SENV, FR, TGEN

SUBJECT: OCEAN POLLUTION CONFERENCE, PARIS, SEPTEMBER 17-21, 1973.

SUMMARY: THE 16 SIGNATORY NATIONS OF THE OSLO CONVENTION ARE MEETING IN PARIS THIS WEEK. UNDER DISCUSSION IS A PROPOSED REGIONAL CONVENTION DEALING WITH MARINE POLLUTENTS FROM LAND-BASED SOURCES.

1. ON THE INITIATIVE OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, REPRESENTATIVES OF 16 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, ALL SIGNATORIES OF THE OSLO CONVENTION, ARE MEETING SEPTEMBER 17-21 IN PARIS TO PREPARE A CONVENTION TO PREVENT POLLUTION OF THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC OCEAN BY NOXIOUS WASTES ORIGINATING FROM THE LAND AND THE RIVERS. THE PARTICI-

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PATING STATES ARE: FRANCE, SWEDEN, NORWAY, GREAT BRITAIN, WESTERN GERMANY, DENMARK, SPAIN, PORTUGAL, FINLAND, NETHERLANDS, IRELAND,

ICELAND, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG, ITALY AND SWITZERLAND. ATTENDING AS OBSERVERS ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF EEC, THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, AND THE UN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS THE DIRECT TRANSLATION OF A SECTION OF THE FWZSTRY OF ENVIRONMENT RELEASE DEALING WITH THE CONFERENCE.

"LAND BASE POLLUTION

FROM A REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN OR UNDER PREPARATION, IT CAN BE CONCLUDED THAT AN IMPORTANT, IF NOT PREPONDERANT, CAUSE OF MARINE POLLUTION HAS NOT YET BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT: POLLUTION FROM LAND-BASE SOURCES, THAT IS TO SAY POLLUTION DUE TO WASTES COMING DIRECTLY FROM LAND OR CARRIED BY WATERWAYS.

IT IS MORE DIFFICULT TO DEVELOP RESOLUTIONS IN THIS AREA. IN QUESTION IS A FORM OF POLLUTION WHICH IS PERMANENT, HAS DIVERSE SOURCES, AND ENDANGERS ALL THE ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE IN A COUNTRY.

AN INTERNATIONAL ACCORD DEALING WITH THIS MATTER RISKS HAVING CERTAIN EFFECTS ON PURELY NATIONAL ACTIVITIES, WHICH COME UNDER THE SOVEREIGNTY OF EACH STATE.

HOWEVER, STATES HAD TO LOOK FOR A SOLUTION PRECISELY TO GUARANTEE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, WHICH ESSENTIALLY HAVE THE SAME OBJECTIVE, THAT OF PROTECTING THE SEAS AND OCEANS FROM POLLUTION FROM WHEREVER IT COMES.

THIS IS WHY THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE HAS TAKEN THE INITIATIVE TO BRING TOGETHER A CONFERENCE IN PARIS FOR ELABORATING AN INTERNATIONAL ACCORD WHICH DEALS WITH POLLUTION FROM LAND-BASED SOURCES.

FOR THE SAKE OF PRAGMATISM, THIS CONFERENCE BRINGS TOGETHER THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS WHO ARE SIGNATORIES OF THE OSLO CONVENTION. THE DRAFT AGREEMENT PROPOSED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO ITS PARTNERS IS INTENDED, AT LEAST AT THE BEGINNING TO BE REGIONAL AND IT WILL APPLY TO THE SAME ZONES OF THE OSLO CONVENTION, THAT IS TO SAY THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC AND NORTH SEA.

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THIS AGREEMENT PROPOSES ESSENTIALLY THREE PRINCIPLES OF ACTION: THE FIRST DEALS WITH THE FORMULATION OF A PROGRAM OF REDUCING POLLUTION PRODUCED BY SPECIFIC NOXIOUS SUBSTANCES. THE SECOND AIMS AT ESTABLISHING A NETWORK OF OBSERVATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT WHICH WILL PERMIT MONITORING OF MARINE QUALITY. THE THIRD ENVISAGES THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION WHICH WILL BE A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION OF CONSULTATION IN REALIZING THE COMMITMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE CONVENTION."

3. INFORMATION SUPPLIED TO US BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTRY

IS BEING POUCHED TO SCI/EN.IRWIN

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Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: OCON, SENV, TGEN, FR
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